



WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS — WISCONSIN'S FOX VALLEY

CALUMET, FOND DU LAC, GREEN LAKE, OUTAGAMIE, WAUSHARA, WAUPACA, WINNEBAGO

State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

January 2005

Fox Valley Area December Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Unchanged

The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for the Fox Valley Region was unchanged at 3.8 percent during December. The area has been at this level for the last three months.

Based on preliminary data, the lowest rate for the region during 2004 was 3.7 percent for the month of September, and the average for the year was 4.5 percent. Complete data for 2004 should be available in March.

The rate for December was 0.7 of a percentage point below last December. The rate was also the lowest level for the month of December since 2000 when the rate was 2.8 percent.

The area followed general seasonal patterns for December as the number of workers in the labor force declined 1,400 to 343,300 and the number employed declined 1,200 to 330,200. The number of unemployed workers declined 200 to 13,100.

Calumet and Winnebago Counties were the only counties in the region that had a decline in their monthly unemployment rates. The rate in Calumet County declined 0.1 of a percentage point to 3.1 percent, while the

rate in Winnebago County decreased 0.4 of a percentage point to 3.3 percent.

Green Lake County continued to have the highest rate in the region at 5.7 percent, while Calumet was the lowest at 3.1 percent. The region had two counties included in the lowest ten unemployment rates in the State of Wisconsin. Calumet ranked fifth lowest in the state, while Winnebago was ninth. The region had no counties ranked in highest ten unemployment rates for the state.

Every county in the region had a lower unemployment rate this December than one year ago. Outagamie, Green Lake, and Fond du Lac Counties had the greatest over the year decreases

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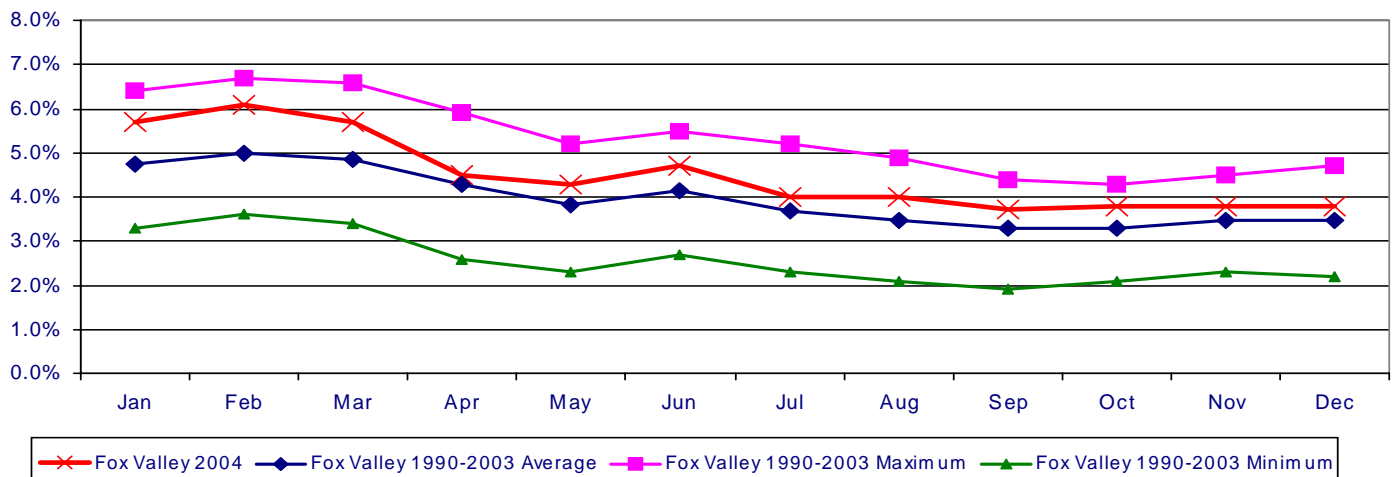
Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah Msa	Wisconsin	United States (000's)
December-2004			
Civilian Labor Force	239,187	3,113,600	148,203
Employment	229,560	2,969,800	140,156
Unemployment	9,627	143,800	8,047
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	4.6%	5.4%
Civilian Labor Force	(100)	(14,800)	(110)
Employment	100	(6,900)	(137)
Unemployment	(200)	(8,000)	27
Unemployment Rate	-0.1%	-0.3%	0.0%
Civilian Labor Force	3,813	28,200	1,395
Employment	5,582	51,600	1,747
Unemployment	(1,769)	(23,400)	(352)
Unemployment Rate	-0.8%	-0.8%	-0.3%

Note: All estimates are rounded and preliminary, based on place of residence

Wisconsin Fox Valley Workforce Development Area Unadjusted Labor Force Data

December 2004	Appl/Osh MSA	Calumet	Fond du Lac	Green Lake	Outagamie	Waupaca	Waushara	Winnebago	Fox Valley WDA	Non MSA's
Civilian Labor Force**	237,100	27,500	56,300	10,400	108,000	27,300	12,200	101,500	343,300	106,200
Employed	228,800	26,700	54,200	9,800	103,900	25,900	11,600	98,200	330,200	101,400
Unemployed	8,300	900	2,100	600	4,100	1,400	700	3,300	13,100	4,800
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.1%	3.8%	5.7%	3.8%	5.1%	5.3%	3.3%	3.8%	4.5%
Change from one month ago November 2004										
Civilian Labor Force**	-1,000	-100	-400	0	-200	-100	100	-700	-1,400	-400
Employed	-600	-100	-400	-100	-300	-100	0	-300	-1,200	-600
Unemployed	-400	0	0	100	100	0	100	-400	-200	200
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	-0.4%	0%	0.2%
Change from one year ago December 2003										
Civilian Labor Force**	4,000	600	-400	-100	1,700	-100	0	1,700	3,500	-500
Employed	5,500	600	100	0	2,500	0	100	2,400	5,700	200
Unemployed	-1,500	-100	-500	-100	-800	-100	-100	-700	-2,200	-700
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.7%	-0.3%	-0.8%	-0.8%	-0.8%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.7%

Monthly Unemployment Rates - Highs, Lows, Average 1990 - 2003, Versus 2004



(Continued from page 1)

in the region, each declining 0.8 of a percentage point. The unemployment rate for Fond du Lac and Outagamie Counties during December was 3.8 percent, while it was 5.7 percent in Green Lake County.

While the labor force and the number employed decreased over the month, the view is quite different when comparing the data from one year ago. During the last year, the area's labor force for the region increased by 3,500 workers. The number of workers estimated to be employed increased 5,700 over the last twelve months, while the number estimated to be unemployed decreased by 2,300.

Nonfarm wage and salary (NFWs) employment in the region increased 800 in December to 289,600 jobs. The increase in jobs for the region over the last twelve months was 4,400. This includes an increase of 2,400 jobs in the manufacturing industry. Services had an increase of 1,800 jobs while trade increased by 200. There was a decline in the transportation and utilities industry of 300, and a loss of 500 jobs in the financial activities industry. Overall, good producing industries increased 2,600 jobs, while service providing industries increased 1,800 jobs. This data

is preliminary and finalized data should be available in March of this year.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted rate for the Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA was 4.0 percent, down 0.1 of a percentage point from last month. The nation's unemployment rate was 5.4 percent, and Wisconsin's was 4.6 percent.

Rates for other MSA's around the state were: Green Bay, 4.3 percent; Sheboygan, 3.7 percent; Milwaukee, 5.0 percent, Wausau, 3.9 percent, and Madison, 2.4 percent. The Madison MSA had the lowest rate in the state.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea>.

*Beginning with January data for 2005 the Fox Valley will be adding to additional MSA's to its region. The Appleton/Oshkosh will be split into two MSA's and Fond du Lac County will become a MSA by itself. Release of data for these regions will occur with the release of January data in early March 2005. See article on page four.

Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)*

National (U. S. City Average.) 1982-84 = 100				% Change	Class B/C - North Central States (1996 = 100)				% Change	Class D - North Central States (1996 = 100)				% Change
U.S. City Average	Dec-04	Nov-04	Dec-03		(Size 50,000-1,500,000)	Dec-04	Nov-04	Dec-03		(Size Less than 50,000)	Dec-04	Nov-04	Dec-03	
All Items	190.3	191.0	3.3%		All Items	117.3	117.7	3.5%		All Items	177.2	177.7	3.3%	
Food & Beverage	188.9	188.6	2.6%		Food & Beverage	116.1	116.1	2.1%		Food & Beverage	181.9	180.8	3.5%	
Housing	190.7	190.8	3.2%		Housing	115.8	115.8	3.4%		Housing	166.2	167.1	2.8%	
Apparel & Upkeep	118.8	123.0	-0.2%		Apparel & Upkeep	89.5	92.1	-0.1%		Apparel & Upkeep	129.1	128.1	-6.8%	
Transportation	164.8	167.2	6.5%		Transportation	117.2	119.2	6.3%		Transportation	153.2	155.1	7.6%	
Gasoline (all Types)	160.4	171.0	26.1%		Gasoline (all Types)	161.0	173.6	25.2%		Gasoline (all Types)	147.2	155.8	28.3%	
Medical Care	314.9	314.1	4.2%		Medical Care	136.9	136.3	6.0%		Medical Care	309.2	309.2	6.2%	
Energy	153.7	158.6	16.6%		Energy	146.6	152.3	16.9%		Energy	142.3	144.9	18.9%	

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics *Not Seasonally Adjusted

Wisconsin Fox Valley Workforce Development Area							
December 2004	Appl/Osh MSA	Fond du Lac	Green Lake	Waupaca	Waushara	Fox Valley WDA	Wisconsin
Total Nonfarm (NFWs) ***	207,400	47,800	7,100	21,200	6,200	289,600	2,857,100
Total Private	182,900	41,900	5,900	17,000	4,600	252,300	2,443,500
Goods Producing	61,300	13,100	1,700	5,600	1,200	82,900	644,700
Service Producing	146,100	34,700	5,400	15,600	4,900	206,700	2,212,400
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	12,700	2,700	400	800	300	17,000	127,900
Manufacturing	48,600	10,300	1,300	4,800	900	65,900	516,800
Trade	31,300	7,500	900	3,200	800	43,700	229,200
Transportation & Utilities	7,000	1,300	300	500	300	9,300	48,700
Financial Activities	10,200	2,000	300	700	200	13,400	163,700
Education and Health Services	21,500	6,300	1,100	2,600	700	32,200	384,800
Leisure & Hospitality	15,200	4,600	700	2,000	800	23,300	240,600
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	36,400	7,200	1,000	2,400	600	47,600	438,300
Total Government	24,500	5,800	1,200	4,200	1,600	37,300	413,600
Federal	1,100	300	100	100	100	1,600	29,400
State	5,600	600	0	900	400	7,500	99,700
Local	17,800	4,900	1,100	3,200	1,100	28,200	284,500
Change from one month ago	November 2004						
Total Nonfarm (NFWs) ***	1,000	-100	-100	0	0	800	-11,000
Percent change NFWs from last month	0.5%	-0.3%	-1.3%	0.0%	0.8%	0.3%	-0.4%
Total Private	600	0	-100	-30	10	500	-11,100
Goods Producing	-500	-200	-20	-50	0	-700	-12,900
Service Producing	1,500	0	-70	40	50	1,600	1,900
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-200	-100	-30	-40	-20	-400	-9,900
Manufacturing	-300	0	10	0	10	-300	-3,000
Trade	1,500	0	0	20	-10	1,500	1,000
Transportation & Utilities	100	0	0	0	0	100	800
Financial Activities	100	100	0	10	0	200	1,500
Education and Health Services	-100	0	10	-10	-10	-100	4,300
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,000	0	-100	0	0	-1,100	-9,700
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	500	0	-30	40	0	500	-8,600
Total Government	400	-100	0	30	40	400	100
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State	0	-100	0	0	0	0	-1,800
Local	400	-100	0	30	40	400	1,900
Change from one year ago	December 2003						
Total Nonfarm (NFWs) ***	4,200	300	-200	0	100	4,400	63,200
Percent change NFWs from last year	2.1%	0.6%	-2.7%	0.2%	1.7%	1.5%	2.3%
Total Private	3,500	300	-30	-10	90	3,800	67,500
Goods Producing	2,800	-200	30	-110	100	2,600	17,800
Service Producing	1,400	400	-220	150	0	1,800	45,400
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	200	0	20	0	0	200	2,400
Manufacturing	2,600	-200	10	-110	90	2,400	15,400
Trade	100	200	-30	0	-20	200	7,900
Transportation & Utilities	-200	-100	10	10	0	-300	-800
Financial Activities	-600	100	0	0	10	-500	3,600
Education and Health Services	100	-100	10	40	-10	0	10,900
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	100	-40	50	10	-100	3,600
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	1,600	200	-10	-10	0	1,800	15,000
Total Government	700	0	-160	50	10	600	-4,300
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	-800
State	300	0	0	20	10	300	-1,000
Local	400	0	-160	40	0	300	-2,500
* Seven counties, excluding La Crosse County ** Includes participants residing in area. *** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWs data is benchmarked to 3/2002							

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/oea>

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Introduction of New and Redefined Metropolitan Statistical Areas

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan statistical areas. The defined metropolitan statistical areas are based on application of the year 2000 standards (which appeared in the *Federal Register* on December 27, 2000) to Census 2000 data and were announced by OMB effective June 6, 2003. For more information on the definition process use: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html> or <http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/aboutmetro.html>

Beginning with the release of January 2005 data, Wisconsin and all other state's Current Employment Statistics (CES) programs will begin using the newly defined Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Metropolitan Statistical Areas consist of one or more counties.

Wisconsin will have 11 Metropolitan Statistical Areas within its borders: MSA Title (Wisconsin counties included)

1. Appleton (Outagamie and Calumet) **
2. Eau Claire (Eau Claire and Chippewa)
3. Fond du Lac (Fond du Lac) **
4. Green Bay (Brown, Oconto and Kewaunee) *
5. Janesville (Rock)
6. Madison (Dane, Columbia and Iowa) *
7. Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis (Milwaukee, Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington)
8. Oshkosh-Neenah (Winnebago) **
9. Racine (Racine)
10. Sheboygan (Sheboygan)
11. Wausau (Marathon)

* New definition

** New MSA

Wisconsin will have 4 Metropolitan Statistical Areas overlapping its borders:

MSA Title (counties/state included)

1. La Crosse (La Crosse/**WI** plus Houston/**MN**).
2. Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington (Anoka, Carver, Chicago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington and Wright/**MN** plus Pierce and St. Croix/**WI**).

3. Duluth (Carlton and St. Louis/**MN** plus Douglas/**WI**).

4. Chicago-Naperville-Joliet (Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will/**IL** plus Jasper, Lake, Newton and Porter/**IN** plus Kenosha/**WI**).

Wisconsin's CES program is responsible for the production of statistics pertaining to the eleven "in state" MSA's and the "cross-state" MSA of LaCrosse. Minnesota or Illinois CES programs (depending on the largest city within the area) are responsible for the statistical development of the other listed cross-state MSA's.

Wisconsin's CES program will publish information for twelve MSA's, an increase from the eleven MSA's defined under the 1990 Census. Significant changes to the MSA structure will be:

- The introduction of Fond du Lac County as the **Fond du Lac Metropolitan Statistical Area**.
- The inclusion of two additional counties (Columbia and Iowa) to the **Madison MSA**.
- The inclusion of two additional counties (Kewaunee and Oconto) to the **Green Bay MSA**.
- The split of Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA into two MSA's – **Appleton MSA** and **Oshkosh-Neenah MSA**.
- The "loss" of the **Kenosha MSA** to the large Chicago-Naperville-Joliet MSA under the state of Illinois' CES program control.

As mentioned previously, January 2005 CES data will be released using the new MSA definitions listed above. For redefined and new areas, this means all data existing under the old definition is not comparable with the January 2005 data and any future data. Every precaution should be taken to avoid using time series data that may exist with a MSA redefinition point. To help data users avoid problems of this nature, CES data will be reconstructed back to 1990 using the new MSA definitions. **Complete replacement of historical data for new and redefined MSA's is strongly encouraged.**

A topside review of the new and redefined MSA's reveals the following (based on March 2003 data):

- ✓ The newly introduced Fond du Lac MSA Total Nonfarm employment is 46,600.
- ✓ The redefined Madison MSA, with 322,600 workers, includes 30,600 workers (+10.5%) from the addition of two counties (Columbia and Iowa) when compared to the old single county (Dane) Madison MSA.
- ✓ The Green Bay MSA has added 15,400 workers due to inclusion of Kewaunee and Oconto counties within its redefinition, to reach a Total Nonfarm employment level of 161,700. The additional counties result in a definitional increase of 10.7%.
- ✓ The split of the old Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA into two separate MSA's revealed 111,800 employees in the Appleton MSA (55.5% of the old definition) and 89,600 employees in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA (44.5% of the "old").
- ✓ Kenosha's 54,100 workers are now included in the Chicago area employment statistics.

A map of Wisconsin's Metropolitan Statistical Areas can be found at:

http://worknet.wisconsin.gov/worknet_info/maps/pdf/Metro-Micro-Areas.pdf

You will note inclusion of Micropolitan Statistical Areas on the map. OMB defines these areas as having at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population. The Current Employment Statistics program will not be developing data for Micropolitan Statistical Areas.